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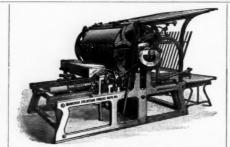
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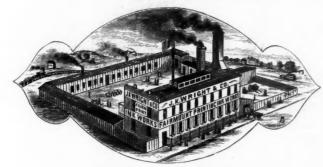
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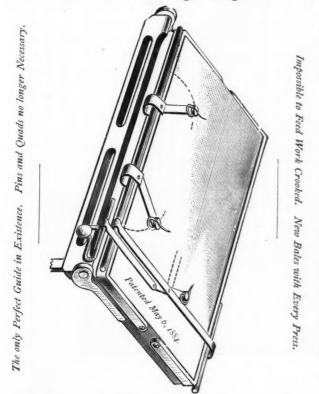
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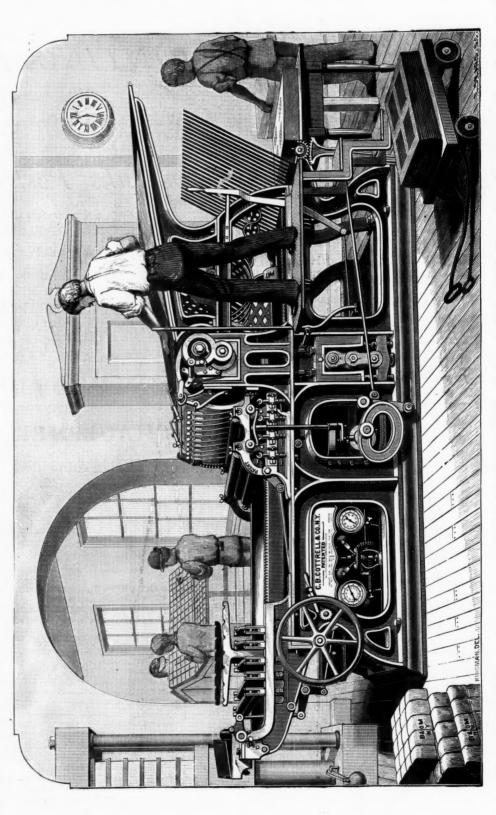
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### THE INLAND PRINTER.

VOLUME I.

CHICAGO, JULY, 1884.

NUMBER 10.

### THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING-OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

(Continued.)

SUPREME COURT ROOM.

ON the ground floor, fronting toward the south, is the room which is principally devoted to court work, in which about one hundred printers find employment. The work consists of the records of all cases to be passed upon by the Supreme Court of the United States, the evidence of cases in the Court of Claims, and the briefs of the attorneys attending, under the direction of the Department of Justice, to cases in either of the courts before mentioned. This class of work annually absorbs from \$40,000 to \$60,000.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ROOM.

Immediately above this room, on the second floor, is printed the *Congressional Record*, which, perhaps, in amount of matter, is the most extensive daily publication in the universe. The Government did not assume charge of this branch of the service until 1873, since which time it has been so well done under the supervision of the Public Printer that it will probably never again fall into the hands of a private corporation.

The early history of the struggle for the reporting and printing of the daily debates of both houses of Congress is interesting. For many years after the organization of the Government, the only matter which appeared in print in relation to the proceedings of Congress was that found in the newspapers of the day. In 1824 a subscription, authorized by Congress, to what has since been known as the Annals of Congress, enabled the old-time firm of Messrs. Gales & Seaton to print the debates from 1789 to 1824, in some 42 octavo volumes. Subsequently, under the title of Register of the Debates of Congress, the same firm brought the proceedings down to 1837, which comprises 27 additional volumes. In the latter year the Congressional Globe was commenced, in which form the debates were printed until superseded by the Congressional Record, as above mentioned.

The Record composing-room is about 86 feet long by 60 feet in width. It gives employment, during the sessions of Congress, to from 50 to 100 hands. It is lighted by electric lamps, and fitted up in a most complete manner. The last forms of the Record go to press not later than six o'clock in the morning, and no matter how large the Record may be, it must be mailed to members in time to be delivered by the city carriers at their first trip. As the Record consists of five or six volumes for a session of ordinary duration, the number of copies printed will annually aggregate from 50,000 to 60,000 volumes. The daily edition is delivered in sheets, but a later edition is printed which is reserved for binding into volumes of appropriate size. During the 46th Congress a law was passed authorizing the purchase of the copyright and

stereotype plates of the old *Congressional Globe*, which places in the control of the Government this ancient literature from 1837 to 1873.

JOB ROOM.

In addition to the printing departments already mentioned, there is the job room, in which all the blankwork for the various branches of the Government is prepared. This division of the office occupies a very cosily fitted up apartment on the second floor immediately over the paper warehouse, and is 87 feet long by 54 wide. The work in this branch consists of the composition on all blank books, blank forms, comprising bonds, contracts, pay-rolls, vouchers, schedules, and letterheads, envelopes, specifications, and in fact all varieties of job printing for all the executive departments in Washington, and all the postoffices, custom-houses, pension agencies, mints, signal offices, etc., in all the States and Territories of the United States. No printing of any description is permitted to be done under the law by the various branches outside of Washington, supplies for the whole service being furnished by the Government Printing-office. There are regularly employed here from 50 to 75 printers, who have become very skillful in the class of work required.

### PATENT-OFFICE SPECIFICATION ROOM.

Another composing-room, employing from 80 to 100 printers the year round, is located on the fourth floor. It is known as the Patent-office specification room, and the work done here is exclusively for the use of the Patent Office, and consists chiefly of the specifications of patents issued to the many thousands of inventors in the land. For many years that famous publication known as the Patent Office Reports was scattered by the thousand over the land, until fears were entertained that, if continued, there would soon be room for nothing else. Several expedients were resorted to of lessening the bulk of this class of Patent-office literature. These annual reports were finally abolished in 1871, and a weekly report of specifications, printed and bound with photo-lithographic illustrations, was substituted therefor. At a later period the specifications were bound monthly, and this is still followed. Some 60,000 pages of printed matter is turned out in this room each year. The weekly Patent Office Gazette, containing the decisions of the Commissioner of Patents and the courts in patent cases, and a list of patents, issued weekly, is printed here also.

### STEREOTYPING DEPARTMENT.

The stereotyping and electrotyping department was established in the Government Printing Office in 1869. It is perhaps the most completely furnished of any foundry in this country, and is capable of turning out from 400 to 500 stereotype pages daily. The Clay process is almost exclusively used here. There are about thirty machines, presses, etc., of different kinds in use, including two No. 2 Hochhausen dynamo-electric machines, used in electrotyping.

Employs about thirty hands, and consumes about one hundred tons of metal yearly.

### THE BINDERY.

When the Government assumed control of the office in 1860, the entire force in the bindery consisted of forty-six persons, and there were in use nine machines of different kinds. The work has so rapidly increased in the past twenty years, that the *personnel* has increased to nearly 600 and the machinery to 180 of various makes and styles.

The bindery is located in the third floor, all of which, with the exception of one small room in which stock, surplus tools, etc., are stored, is devoted to the use of its small army of employés and the numerous machines, and in the prosecution of the work. The expenditures of this branch of the service has increased from \$106,652.57 in 1862 to about \$500,000 in 1881. More books are bound here in each six months than can be found in any library in the United States, not excepting the library of Congress at Washington. All documents and reports for the use of Congress, the several executive departments, and the various courts are bound, and all the blank-books, of every description, for all branches of the Government service, are made in the bindery. The ruling department of the bindery is located in the east wing, in which are found 25 of the most approved kind of ruling machines. The sewing department gives employment to about 250 persons, mostly women, and thirteen wire book-sewing machines are also used in the same work. In the forwarding department 150 people and about 100 machines, including plows, presses, etc., find constant employment. There are in operation 17 numbering and paging machines, of which several are exclusively employed in the numbering of money-order blanks. This branch of the office is constantly increasing with the establishment of additional money-order offices throughout the country, and threatens, in a few years, to overwhelm the office with its magnitude.

All classes of binding are neatly and expeditiously done here. The work, it is believed, will compare favorably with that of any establishment of the kind in the world, but its chief recommendation is its substantial and lasting character, as the work done is intended more for preservation than ornamentation.

(To be continued.)

### THE PRINTING-PRESS.

(Continued.)

BY STEPHEN MC NAMARA.

In 1817 George Clymer, of Philadelphia, completed the Columbian press and dispensed with the screw entirely. Upon their introduction into England, important alterations were made, and work was produced upon them of which the English presses were incapable. It is not a little gratifying to note that although experiments had been made to discard the screw, none had as yet proved sufficiently practical until the appearance of this American press; and although it was met with the vanity and national pride attaching to the English printers, nevertheless its power was soon demonstrated and acknowledged, and then it was attempted to prove that Clymer was not the first to substitute the lever for the screw.

Here then occurs the change in the mechanics of the press from that which had existed for almost four hundred years, constituting the second epoch, as we might term it—the first having existed from the invention of printing.

Clymer placed a strong lever across the top of the frame to which one end was pivoted; the opposite end being brought down by links connecting the bar. The power gained by this combination was imparted to the platen by a pedestal above its center. This was without doubt the idea which led to the adoption of the toggle-joint, which soon superseded all devices so far used to convey power; about this time the Tuft hand-press of Boston, 1813, with an oval or pear-shaped frame and toggle-joint, appeared, as did the Smith press, of New York, 1822, built by Peter Smith, the uncle of Richard, Robert and Peter Hoe.

In 1829 Samuel Rust, of New York, patented the Washington press, which was purchased by the Hoes and has been built by them ever since. The action of this press differs from the other toggle presses by resembling the closing of a book while they exert force in opening. Having stood the test of half a century, it may well be considered the standard among manual presses.

The Foster press, well and favorably known in the last decade, differed materially from all others, inasmuch as the bed was raised instead of the platen being forced down. An upright shaft was attached to the near side of the frame, and, like the Stanhope, was operated by the bar; a short arm and rod at the lower end conveyed power to the toggle-joint, forcing the bed up to the platen, which was permanently fixed; thus presenting a low, solid and compact appearance.

In summarizing the attempts to advance the art up to the advent of the Washington press, there are but few who are able to stand the crucial test of time; and there is no fact so clearly demonstrative of the difficulties attending its improvement as that such versatile and accomplished men have attempted it. Blaew measurably improved the science of astronomy; he did not the art of printing. Stanhope, to whom we are glad to pay the homage of our gratitude, did improve it materially, and, although surpassed soon by less complex and hence better mechanism, no improvement in speed has been made beyond what he achieved. Rust seems to have reached perfection in the mechanics, and Stanhope in the product, of the handpress; and we must not forget that Franklin, who first brought the lightning from the clouds and made a stove to draw down instead of upward, was not able to make any change in the methods of his chosen profession.

At this time one of the most popular presses in use was the Ramage, built by Adam Ramage, of Philadelphia. It was of the screw class, two-pull, stone bed and wooden platen. Subsequently iron was used in their construction, and being of a diminutive size, most frequently demy, were considered very rapid. The experience of one of the oldest pressmen in this country will give us an insight to the progress of the art at the period when the hand-press had reached the ultimate limit of its capacity, and the demands of the public for the latest intelligence became so clamorous that machine printing followed as a natural sequence.

In 1832 Dutton & Wentworth were the printers of the Boston Transcript, edition 1,000 copies, printed on the Ramage two-pull press. In their employ was a lad named James W. Osgood, in the capacity of roller-boy. Composition rollers had been introduced a few years previously, but had not as yet entirely superseded the leather balls, the pressmen claiming they inked not only the face of the type but down the sides as well. The thick woolen blankets forcing the paper into the interstices produced a muddy appearance, which was avoided by the balls, as they inked the face only. The rolling was sometimes done with the short two-handled roller and stone slab in front of the press, and again with two rollers and wooden cylinder at the back. In emergencies, a fly-boy was employed to take off the sheets as fast as printed, which materially increased the speed. Eight tokens or 2,000 impressions was considered a day's work of ten hours.

Within a short time the boy became familiar with the working of the press and soon could "swing the bed and bar" with the best of them. War broke out between the Poles and Russians, excitement ran high, and the subscription list increased daily. To supply the eager demands of the public, who deeply sympathized with the Poles, for the latest news, a cap Ramage was introduced, and upon the arrival of a ship in the harbor from Europe, slips were issued ahead of the regular evening edition and run at the tremendous rate of 350 an hour! This was "rapid transit" with a rush. It was soon found necessary to introduce an iron press, super-royal size, by which the full form was worked by one pull. Young Osgood and a pressman named Forsythe had become so accustomed to pull a token and roll a token, that each side of the paper was done in four hours. By so doing they worked but eight hours a day. As the war progressed the list increased, sometimes a quire or more per day. Both would "pull up" and still be but four hours to each side. Finally a new hand-press was ordered expressly for the Transcript, built by Dow, of Boston. This press was intended for speed. The rounce-crank made but one and one-half turns, while the former made one and twothirds; the bar was shorter and gave the impression with but little motion of the body. Small as this gain seems to us now to be, it was at that time considered quite the thing, and pressmen came to examine it and talk of it just as they did afterward when the great type-revolving presses were first introduced. The edition soon reached 2,000 copies, or 16 tokens, yet it was accomplished in the usual time of eight hours. Forsythe weighed about 160 pounds, and could make the pull by simply bending his arm, and did his token in 25 to 28 minutes, while young Osgood, weighing but 112 pounds, was obliged to exert all his strength, and his token was pulled in from 30 to 32 minutes. In the absence of any reliable data, this may be considered as the best time ever made on the hand-press.

Printers were quite as familiar with presswork as composition, and were in fact taught both branches. A certain scale of wages prevailed for composition per 1,000 ems, and a corresponding rate per token for presswork. Job work, such as it was, came under the head of weekly wages. When we consider that all bookwork was thus executed—law, medical, school, the statutes and other state printing,

it is easy to see what an important factor the hand-press was, and how loth men were who had served a regular apprenticeship to see it displaced by other mechanical contrivances which would prove more profitable to employers but less so to themselves, and ultimately throw them out of employment or force them to seek work at the case.

Before leaving the now almost forgotten, and by some entirely unknown, hand-press, it may not be out of place to draw attention to its present utility. True its days have passed. Modern machinery has thrown it completely in the shade, and, as compared with the present fast web presses, the shadow is impenetrable; but still it occupies a secluded corner in every well regulated job office, from which it can never be dislodged. It matters not how elegant its competitor may be, how bright the finish or ponderous its weight of metal, nor how delicate its articulation and adjustment, the poor despised hand-press, under the artistic touch of a Matthews of Buffalo or a Mooney of New York, stands alone and unapproachable. In such hands, it is today capable of producing work absolutely impossible on any machine press now known, or likely to be in the future. So much so is this the fact, that samples of the former's work still exist, which stand as a permanent challenge to the world to equal. Nor can this be considered the vain boast of any man, as the work speaks for itself in such a manner as to puzzle and mystify the ablest pressmen of today, who, unable to comprehend the possibilities of the press itself, find it impossible to satisfactorily explain the manner of its execution; while the artist proofs of the latter so closely resemble steel-plate impressions that the most expert pressman, with the most costly machinery and unlimited time, cannot surpass them. For proving up woodcuts or registering color blocks, the hand-press is indispensable, and, in the hands of those well skilled in its use, would often prove more profitable on short runs than any other. It is not every one, however, who possesses this skill, and many amusing incidents have occurred illustrative of this fact, one of which may be recalled. A great big lake-captain, in the port of Toledo, having ordered a few posters for an excursion, called in while they were being printed, and found a small, delicate youth pulling them on a large handpress, the other presses being full. After watching the peculiar and graceful movements of the lad, who, by the way, had "done time" thus frequently, he wanted to try his hand, and upon being told that he could not pull the bar, he made the attempt but failed, and amid the derisive laughter of the hands he jerked the press bodily out of place, and, with that profanity so proverbial with his class, pulled the press all about the floor, and then looking at the small lad in utter amazement, asked that he come and kick him off the dock.

(To be continued.)

An exchange suggests that "compositors should learn something of drawing, at least enough to enable them to illustrate any designs they have mentally formed. This will not only facilitate the execution of their work, but enable them to present their plans for approval before actually beginning their work. They will themselves form clearer conceptions of what they wish and intend to do, and be enabled to change their designs more readily and intelligently than if they had nothing blocked out on paper."

### THE INLAND PRINTER,

AN OPERATIVE JOURNAL, CONDUCTED BY WORKMEN.

Published Monthly by

### THE INLAND PRINTER COMPANY.

2 TAYLOR BUILDING, MONROE ST., CHICAGO.

JOS. PEAKE, SECRETARY-TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One dollar per annum in advance; for six months, Fifty Cents; single copies,

One dollar per annum in advance; for six months, Fifty Cents; single copies, Ten Cents.

The Inland Printer will be issued promptly on the tenth of each month. Subscriptions, payable in advance, may be sent to the Secretary by postoffice order or in currency at our risk.

The Inland Printer will spare no endeavor to furnish valuable news and information to those interested professionally or incidentally in the printing profession, and printers throughout the West will confer a great favor on the Editor of this Journal by sending him news pertaining to the craft in their section of the country, particularly individual theories and experiences of practical value.

### ADVERTISING RATES.

-	ONE MONTH.	THREE MONTHS.	SIX MONTHS.	MONTHS.
One inch	\$ 4 00	\$11 00	\$ 21 00	\$ 38 50
One-eighth page	8 00	22 75	38 50 65 00	75 00
One-quarter page	12 00	34 00	65 00	115 00
One-half page	20 00	56 00	105 00	190 00
One page	35 00	90 00	170 00	325 00

The following gentlemen have authority to receive and receipt for subscriptions to The Inland Printer:

PHILADELPHIA: C. W. Miller, Rec.-Sec. Pressmen's Union, P. O. Box 269. WASHINGTON, D. C.: Henry Evans, Pressroom Government Printing Office. St. Louis, Mo.: W. H. Bowman, 2514 Cass ave. CHICAGO: Edward Langston, with J. M. W. Jones Printing Co. Boston, Mass.: Silas L. Morse, 117 Franklin street. Toronto, Ont.: James McDonald, with Rowsell & Hutchison. Buffalo, N. Y.: E. D. Eastabrook, 81 W. Genesee street. Montreal, Que.: J. E. Tardif. Memphis, Tenn.: H. P. Hanson, Sec'y Typographical Union No. 11.

THE INLAND PRINTER may be obtained at retail of the following well-known

WELLS B. SIZER, 152 Dearborn street.
PIERCE & SNYDER, 122 Dearborn street.
SUTHERLAND'S, 97 and 99 Adams street.

Applications for agencies will be received from responsible working printers in ry town and city in the United States and Canadas.

### CHICAGO, JULY, 1884.

### TO ENGRAVERS.

THE publishers of The Inland Printer invite sketches I of an engraved title-page for this journal, 10 by 6% inches, embellished with designs illustrating the art of printing and kindred trades, the cost of which when completed will not exceed \$75. A bonus of \$10 each will be paid to the parties furnishing the four best designs, from one of which the selection will be made.

ROM Messrs. George P. Rowell & Co's American Newspaper Directory for 1884 we learn there are no fewer than 13,302 newspapers and periodicals published in the United States and Dominion of Canada, -an increase of 1,500 during the past year, the gain in the United States alone amounting to 1,344. The State of New York with a total of 1,523 heads the list. There has been an increase in the number of papers published in every state but one. The following is the classification, excluding those published by our northern neighbors; Dailies, 1,178; weeklies, 9,492; monthlies, 1,499.

### NOTICE TO UNION JOB PRINTERS.

OMMENCING with the August number of The In-LAND PRINTER, we shall offer a special premium of thirty dollars per quarter, to be thereafter increased as circumstances warrant: fifteen dollars of which shall be awarded to the first, ten dollars to the second and five dollars to the third specimen of printing decided to contain the best design and workmanship. The awarding committee - whose decision shall in all cases be final - will consist of five practical union job printers, no two being from the same office, and none of which shall be competitors while members of the committee. For the first quarter these gentlemen will be selected from Chicago, but afterward three of them, at least, from different sections of the country, as it is our intention to make this feature essentially national in character. We believe the publication of these designs will be productive of much good, not that there is a trifling pecuniary remuneration attached to the awards, but because it will act as an incentive to hundreds of our artistic, ambitious young printers to display their special talents, and be the means of bringing their productions to the attention of employers throughout the country, thus advancing their material interests. The decision is left in the hands of practical bona-fide workmen, who in all cases will be men whose judgment and ability will be vouched for by their associates, and whose names will be a guarantee of good faith. The designs, as also the names and addresses of the successful competitors, which must in all cases accompany the specimens sent, will be announced under the signatures of the committee and the awards paid immedi-

The designs may consist of letter, note or bill heads, business and professional cards, programmes, invitations, circulars, etc. etc.; but in no case must they exceed in size 63/4 by 43/4 inches, or one half of a page of THE INLAND PRINTER. Smaller specimens will be preferred, however.

The stipulations are few and simple, the requirements being that all competitors shall be members in good standing of a typographical union, that the designs offered shall be original in character and gotten up in good faith after the publication of this announcement, and that electrotypes of such specimens be forwarded, prepaid, to the editor of The Inland Printer. All designs received will be published from month to month, and the decision rendered at the end of each quarter.

Corresponding secretaries will confer a special favor by giving publicity to this announcement, for the time being at least, as we intend to have it read before every union chapel in the country.

### OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

WE refer with pride to the nature and character of our correspondence in the present issue. It not only treats on subjects of interest to the craft, but is written by representative men who *know* by practical experience what they are writing about. It will well repay perusal.

### STRIKES-THEIR USES AND ABUSES.

FATAL mistake too often indulged in by many of the newly formed labor associations is that their first mission is to undergo their "baptism of fire" by indulging in the luxury of a strike. This fallacy has disrupted more organizations than any agency with which we are acquainted. If ever there is a time when caution and conservatism are required, it is during the first year of their existence. Lacking discipline, experience and cohesion, which time alone begets, such strikes but lead to the inevitable - defeat; demoralization ensues, and, as a matter of course, the organization goes to the dogs. Now, we insist that in all well regulated trades-unions strikes should be shunned until every honorable method to avoid them has been exhausted; and as an evidence that this opinion is widely shared we find that among the most experienced and powerful associations they are interdicted until the merits of the controversy have been submitted to and digested by a majority of the branch organizations. This is as it should be, and wherever tested has redounded to the interests alike of employer and employé. We do not claim that all strikes could have been avoided by the adoption of such a course, but we do claim that a large majority of the strikes of the past, which have brought ruin to the capitalist and misery to the workman, could have been avoided by a friendly interview and mutual concessions; and that the man or organization which tries to thwart an amicable settlement in this emergency, under the specious pretense that such action would flavor of cowardice, is an enemy alike to trades unions and society at large. If the demands are justifiable, their submission to and endorsement by their fellow craftsmen, who are ready and willing to furnish the sinews of war, will but strengthen their position, and employers will think twice before, under such circumstances, they will refuse to meet their employés half-way. If the demands are unwarrantable, or so declared by an impartial tribunal, they have certainly no reason to grumble if employers take a similar view.

A few years ago the colliers of one of the largest mining corporations in this state were subjected to a series of petty indignities and injustice, against which they rebelled. Seeking through their officers an interview with the president, they were curtly informed by the superintendent that no such interview would be granted. As a result, 800 men quit work and remained idle for a number of weeks. At their request we called on the president to ascertain if a committee would be received and their grievances listened to, and to our surprise were informed that both requests would be cheerfully granted. On learning that the men before striking had been denied an interview, the superintendent was summoned. "Mr. S.," said the president, "I am told that at the commencement

of the difficulty you gave these gentlemen to understand that I declined to receive them. Upon what was your statement based?" "Well," was the response, "I supposed you did not want to be annoyed with their complaints." "In future, then, please let me do the supposing." And turning to the committee, the president continued: "So far from being opposed to seeing you, I want, and have wanted, to talk the matter over with you. I knew nothing about your former application. In future, if difficulty arises, come direct to me. I won't promise to accede to your demands, but I will give you a courteous hearing; listen to your grievances - real or supposed, and do all that I consistently can to remove them. This strike has injured the company and I know it has injured the miners." The result was, that the difficulty was amicably arranged, and in a very short time afterward every shaft belonging to the company was in full blast.

Of course we are well aware that these views will not find favor among a certain class of men who may appropriately be termed "constitutional kickers,"—grumblers, who are never in their element except when raising a fuss, who are constantly in hot water, and who go where they may become an element of discord, and the appointment of such men on a conference committee would do more harm than good. But when the demands of common-sense men are presented in a common-sense manner, there are few employers who will have the temerity to turn a deaf ear to their complaints.

### UNPROFITABLE COMPETITION.

A RECENT issue of Caslon's Circular, a periodical published in London, England, by one of the oldest and most progressive typefounders in Great Britain,—a firm to whom the craft is indebted for the revival of the "old style" series,—contains an article on the evils of injurious competition which affords food for serious reflection. After paying a generous tribute to the general excellence of American as compared with English jobwork, the writer says:

The truth of the whole matter is that our trade in this country is cursed with an unwholesome competition, which has misdirected the energy and enterprise of the printer, as well as that of the manufacturers of the material they use, to the one miserable object of doing work cheaply. To undersell your neighbor seems to be the chief aim of the majority of printers throughout the country, with the inevitable result of making their work decidedly nasty. \* \* Besides compelling the use of the basest materials, the demand for cheapness debases the art of the printer by discouraging any effort at perfection on his part. Instead of doing his work in artistic fashion, with excellence for his aim, the journeyman, harassed by pressure to do his task within a space of time wholly inadequate for its proper performance, produces a result which otherwise he would be ashamed of. No consideration whatever is given to the manner of the work, so long as it is done in as short a time as possible. All this is the result of low, unremunerative prices, brought about by ruinous competition.

Corroborative evidence of the truth of this statement is furnished in the following extract from our correspondent, I. B. Manning, which appears in the present issue. He says:

"Having been a boss printer for a number of years in the old country, and since then a foreman in other English towns, I have had, on more than one occasion, to write on this same subject, and to point out to printers the ruinous and demoralizing influence this system of cutting prices was sure eventually to bring about. It has today in many towns in England reduced the business of a printer to that low ebb, that many offices exist barely getting out of their work sufficient remuneration to pay rent, etc., and keep body and soul together."

Now, our readers will bear witness that THE INLAND PRINTER has consistently and persistently waged war on this ruinous and suicidal policy, and pointed out the inevitable result of its longer continuance; though we regret to state that a number of trade journals, instead of sounding the note of alarm, of denouncing, as they should denounce, a competition which sooner or later is bound to bring disaster on all concerned; because the same causes will produce the same results, have made the article referred to the occasion for indulging in spread-eagle humbug, which is sure to be productive of more harm than good. What this reckless competition has done for the trade in England it is fast doing in Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and in fact every city on the American continent. And the journal which tells the truth, calls things by their right names, offend whom it may, does a greater kindness to the trade at large than that journal which tickles the national vanity with a coat of veneer at the expense of truth. We are now sowing to the wind; we will as assuredly reap to the whirlwind, and the events of the past few weeks in this and other cities, where so many work-at-any-price houses have gone to the wall, teach a lesson which none but a fool can afford to disregard.

We insist that each job done under this prevailing unhealthy, unremunerative competition not only lowers the standard of excellence which should be maintained by every establishment, but is also a step in the direction of the sheriff's office. Cheap labor, and cheap and nasty work, pays neither the employer nor the customer; and if the weeding out of these offices, which have long been recognized as the bane of the trade, shall prove the means of replacing the system of which we complain with a healthy, rational, honorable competition, it will indeed have proven a blessing in disguise.

### THE PRESS OF THE FUTURE.

CCORDING to the New York World, Hoe, the well-A known printing-press manufacturer, is now engaged in building a machine which he claims will when perfected run off 30,000 impressions per hour from the type direct; although he is not yet prepared to guarantee that it will do that amount of work. Whether the venture will come up to his expectation remains to be seen; yet be the result what it may, it is certain that a radical improvement is demanded on the present stereotype system. It is claimed, and with a good deal of force, that much valuable time is consumed where every minute counts, between the time when the news is ready and the instant when presswork begins. The half-hour thus consumed in stereotyping too often represents time and money lost, and any practical scheme to overcome this drawback will be welcomed as a boon, especially by afternoon metropolitan journals, whose managers strain every nerve to get their editions out a few minutes ahead of their rivals. It is also claimed that

stereotyping makes no practical saving in the wear and tear of the material; that when three, four or five editions are rushed out daily, a dress of type will not last more than a year with the present stereotyping apparatus, and it must be pretty heavy presswork to wear out type faster than this.

### UNDUE COMPETITION.

OUR Salt Lake correspondent, in his letter which appears in another column, instances a specimen of estimating wherein two houses furnish figures for the same job, respectively \$90 and \$60, and he asks us what a reputable Chicago firm would estimate the cost at. We give below a properly worked out estimate. The job is stated to be 500 copies 60-page pamphlet, 8vo, with 99,000 ems composition, paper 50 lb. book, cover 70 lb. medium:

22 reams 50 lb. S. S. & C. at 11c (cost 10c)	\$13	75
51/2 quires 70 lb. cover at 11c	2	12
Composition 99,000 ems at 60c	59	40
Presswork, 4 forms, \$2.25	9	00
" cover	1	25
Binding	3	00
Incidentals, delivery, etc	2	00
•	\$00	F 2

The above figures speak for themselves; there is no room for quibble. Notwithstanding that some reputable houses think 58c per thousand ems enough for composition, we maintain that the proofreading, supervision, make-up and lock-up considered, it cannot profitably be done for less than 6oc. Of the case quoted by our correspondent P. E. M., we would simply remark that we should hate to be a creditor of the sixty-dollar competitor.

### HINTS TO APPRENTICES.

A MOST important part of the printer's work is that of making up matter into pages for book and catalogue work. It is not every printer who is posted in this branch, and a few hints in relation to it may prove of some value, as a great deal of the good or bad appearance of a work depends upon the manner in which it is made up. Catalogue work, especially, needs care and watchfulness on the part of the "make-up," as the arrangement of matter under the various headings, and the spacing out or crowding in of different parts of the catalogue, sometimes necessitates a great deal of active brainwork.

To make plain the principles and mode of procedure to be followed in this branch, we will suppose an apprentice is told, for the first time, to make up a sixteen-page catalogue with rule and corner borders. About the first thing necessary for him to do is to select a corner suitable to the size of the page and see that he can get enough for the job. Next take sufficient rule, and cut in lengths for the top, bottom and sides, using care to have them cut exact and nucely trimmed at the ends. Get slugs and leads to justify the rule to the corner, and the borders will be ready. Then take the galleys of matter and look them over to see whether there is likely to be too much or not enough to fill out the number of pages needed. If the matter is continuous, without sub-heads, and the quantity is doubtful, take a piece of string and measure all the mat-

ter on the galleys; then take the length of a page and pass the string over it as many times as it will go, and you will then be able to tell just how much more or less matter you have, and whether you will need to lead out or unlead the whole or any part of it. Where the matter is divided up into sections under different heads, each to make a page, or maybe two or three, the spacing of each section will depend upon itself in relation to the pages it is intended to fill. If running heads are to be used, it is better to set as many as are needed before commencing to make up the pages. It will take less time and be more convenient than setting the headline for each page as you go along.

Having prepared the borders, headlines, and whatever else is necessary, the actual making up may be commenced. Let the space between the border and the matter be not less at the top and bottom than it is on the sides of the page. It is better to have a lead or two more if possible. The space above and below the headline should be the same on each page, in order to get perfectness of register on the press. Space out the matter on each page so as to well fill the border, allowing for the squeeze the page will get in locking up. If there are cuts inserted in the matter, see that enough material is placed on either side of them to fill out the width of the page, as if not well justified they are liable to give trouble on the press by causing material to rise and black the sheets. If the matter is divided into many sections, and is very open, the use of a few fancy dashes or small ornaments will help fill up the pages and improve their appearance; but do not be too lavish in the use of ornaments, as it is very easy to overdo the thing and make a job look ridiculous. Where there is a title to the catalogue, and the matter will allow you to do so, the imprint should be placed on the back of the title and the catalogue commence on the third page with a drop-down head.

There is no doubt, in making up for the first time, some little difficulty will be experienced either in arrangement or spacing of matter; but if the difficulty is too perplexing for you to overcome, the foreman or one of the compositors will always be willing to help you out with suggestions as to the best course to pursue. Sometimes it happens that a cut or a table comes in at an awkward place, and you may have to run back or drive over certain matter to make sufficient space for it. Do not make more breaks in sections with headings than you can help. It looks bad to see two or three lines belonging to a section turned over to the next page; better crowd it in; but if this is impossible, turn over just as much as you can and repeat the heading in smaller type with the word "continued" following it. Where space will allow, let each section commence a page; but do not, unless compelled by actual necessity, let a section commence right at the bottom of a page. By exercising a little care, very few difficulties will arise that cannot be easily overcome, and after a little practice making up will become a real pleasure instead of being a great trouble.

In large printing-offices, where catalogues ranging from sixteen up to one or two hundred pages are often printed, the making up is usually done by experienced men, whose ability has been acquired by long practice, and the younger employés seldom have the opportunity afforded them of

making up anything; but if they show themselves willing and anxious to learn, and the work they perform is always of good quality, the foreman will not be slow to give them a show when a favorable opportunity occurs.

On bookwork, the make-up needs to be always on the alert, for there are things to be thought of and done which will keep his mind well exercised. It may appear to some to be a simple matter to make up pages in bookwork, but it is not so simple as at first glance would appear. Regularity has to be observed throughout, whether the book makes fifty or five hundred pages, and to preserve this regularity is sometimes quite a task.

Headings to chapters need sinking to a uniform depth. To avoid making bad breaks it is necessary at times to run over a stickful or more of matter in order to get in a line or make one. In illustrated works, cuts will sometimes be inserted in places which necessitate running the descriptive matter down one or both sides, which cannot be done until the page is about to be made up, because it is not known just where the cut will fall. Extracts or letters set in smaller type will sometimes be inserted, and we have known instances where such have caused the re-makeup of four or five preceding pages in order to get them in without spoiling the beauty of the work. These and other causes of annoyance to the make-up do not appear when the work is completed, and it is only those who have had the work to do that know anything about the time and care expended upon it in order to make it what it is.

To those not well posted in bookwork, but who are anxious to know more, the following suggestions will be acceptable. Let each page be accurately gauged, for, if this be neglected, perfect register, which is one of the essentials of good bookwork, cannot be obtained. Where every chapter commences a fresh page, see that the heading is sunk the same all through the work. Where it is not necessary that a chapter should commence a page, avoid as much as possible commencing below the half. If the end of a chapter finishes with more than half a page, it is better to let the next chapter commence the following page. Do not, in fine work, let the first line of a paragraph be the last on a page, and try to turn over more than two lines at the end of a paragraph. In conversation matter or very short paragraphs, this suggestion, of course, cannot be followed; but in works of a general character there need not be much difficulty in doing so. 'Where matter runs down the side of a cut, see that it is properly justified, and if the cut is not square, or if it is "bottlearsed" (as cuts sometimes are), remedy its defects by justifying with cardboard or paper where needed. Where marginal notes are used, see that they are placed directly in line with the text to which they refer; and in case of foot-notes, where they are plentiful, see that the referencemarks in the text and at the commencement of each note agree, as the compositor in setting the matter will follow the marks on his copy. Where foot-notes are numerous or lengthy, the make-up needs to keep a close watch on the text in order to have them fall on the right page. In ornamental work, where head and tail pieces and large initials are used, let the designs be as varied as the capacity of the material in the office will allow; and if compelled

to use the same designs more than once, let them be as far removed as possible. Various other points peculiar to particular works will arise, which may be left to the judgment of the make-up or be decided upon by the foreman.

In relation to magazine and periodical work, where type of various sizes, both leaded and solid, are employed, the making up is a matter of great importance, but as it is usually done by a compositor of experience and under the direction of the foreman, it is scarcely necessary for us to make any suggestions thereon. Newspapers, also, are beyond the scope of an article like this, as it is only by long experience that a printer acquires the faculty of properly making them up, and the position of make-up on a newspaper is one of great importance and responsibility.

From the foregoing remarks the student of typography will see that a great deal of experience and careful training is necessary to become a good make-up, and the success or failure of a work as a monument of typographic art is greatly due to the manner in which it is presented to the public. A well made up work is a pleasure for the pressman to exercise his ability upon, and will call forth praise from even the most captious of critics; but a work badly executed in this respect, no matter how careful the compositor may have been in setting, or the pressman in working off, will be thoroughly condemned by all lovers of good typography. Many works owe their popularity as much to the manner in which they are executed as to the matter which they contain; and we would impress upon our young friends the necessity of adopting "Excelsior" as their motto, and endeavoring to attain the highest standard possible in every branch of their profession, although it may take years of earnest, persistent effort to accomplish.

(To be continued.)

### PRINTERS' INTERNATIONAL SPECIMEN EXCHANGE.

For the benefit of such of our subscribers as desire to contribute to the sixth volume of the "International Specimen Exchange," we herewith publish the amended instructions:

- The annual subscription to the Printers' International Specimen Exchange is one shilling, which may be remitted in postage stamps of any denomination.
- 2. Members must be practical letterpress or lithographic printers, managers of printing-offices, compositors, pressmen, or apprentices—any number from one house—are eligible, but no individual subscriber may send more than one contribution.
- 3. The specimens produced for the Specimen Exchange must be from the hands of the subscriber or his workmen; trade work—i. e. work done by one printer for another—cannot be admitted.
- 4. Three hundred and seventy-five copies of any job all alike, printed on quarto demy, 11½ by 8¾ inches—single sheets, worked one or or both sides, with full imprint of each contributor, are to be sent in not later than the last day of January in each year, carriage paid, addressed to the editor of *The Paper and Printing Trades Journal*, 50 Leadenhall street, London, E.C., by every subscriber, who will receive in return 350 specimens, all different. The twenty-five extra impressions allow for spoiling in pressing, collating, etc., and also for a few special press copies. American, colonial and foreign contributions should be forwarded (packed between boards) at a somewhat earlier date.
- 5. Contributions short in number (375) will be rejected unless made up. Contributions smaller or larger than the size fixed by rule 4—

- 111/4 by 83/4 and specimens printed on cardboard cannot be admitted.
- 6. Contributions in the nature of advertisements, of printing machinery or materials, etc.—either in the job itself or in the imprint—cannot be admitted.\*
- 7. For the protection of subscribers, the editor reserves the right of rejecting specimens which he may consider unsuitable; and as acceptance of contributions depends as much on mechanical execution as tasteful display, it is obviously impossible for the editor to judge of the suitability of a job merely from the submission of a rough proof. Notices of rejection will be given privately.
- \*No objection is made to the mention in imprints of the source from whence materials used in the jobs were obtained or of the machines on which they were printed, but as the privilege has been abused in some contributions sent in for the fifth volume—which were returned—it must be understood that the editor reserves the right of rejecting specimens in which, in his opinion, the imprint has been used for advertising purposes.

### THE TRADE IN KANSAS.

A CORRESPONDENT from Kansas has compiled the following relative to the condition of the trade in that state. The nine towns enumerated are the principal ones in the state, and the only ones in which daily papers are published. The facts were obtained from the foreman of the principal office in each town:

No.	No. Papers in Town.	RATE 1,00	RATE PAID PER 1,000 EMS.	R X			Vieni	Jo			.noini
Morning.  Weeklies.		Morning papers.	Evening papers.	Bookwork.	Johnen's wages.	Ртезьтеп'я wages.	Wages paid to ord	General condition of trade,	Future outlook.	.snoinU	o, of members in
1 2 6 3	_	30	25	30	\$12 to 15	\$12 to 15	\$5 to ro	Fair	Good	Yes	8
2 5 3		30	25	30	12 to 18	15 to 18	10 to 12	Medium	Good	Ves	12
2 2 10 7		-30	20	22	re to re	9 to 15	8 to 12	Good	Hopeful	Yes	50
2 I 7 5		50	20	:	ro to 15	12 to 15	7 to 10	Good	Fair	Yes	12
I 3 4		:	:	:	to to 12		6 to 9	Medium	Fair	No	
н з з		30	10	25	12 to 14	8 to 15	8 to 10	Fair	Good	No	:
I I 3 3		30	:	:	II to 13		7 to ro	Medium	Fair	No	:
		30	:	:	to to 12		7 to 10	Fair	Good	No	
1 I 4 3		30	22	25	12 to 14	8 to 12	7 to ro	Good	Fair	No	
			6	27	\$12.631%	\$10 801K	8 243/			Total	Total

### CORRESPONDENCE.

(While our columns are always open for the discussion of any relevant subject, we do not necessarily indorse the opinions of contributors. Anonymous letters will not be noticed; therefore our correspondents will please give names—not for publication, if they desire to remain incog., but as a guarantee of good faith.)

### A WRINKLE WORTH KNOWING.

To the Editor :

MANHATTAN, KAS., June 23, 1884.

The old habit of licking stamps can easily be obviated, when many are to be used, by an ingenious method which is not new but which is unknown to many: Wrap a piece of cloth snugly about a block about three inches square (an old stereotype is best, to prevent its floating); place this in a basin, and pour water in till half way up the sides of the block. The water, by capillary attraction, will keep the cloth moist all the time. Take a string of stamps in the right hand, press them separately on the block with the thumb and then on the envelopes.

GEO. F. THOMPSON.

### OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

To the Editor :

PHILADELPHIA, June 23, 1884.

As your correspondent had the honor of being a delegate to the I. T. U. convention, lately convened in New Orleans, and as attendance at said convention necessitated his absence from this city nearly three weeks, he, of course, has not had the opportunity to see and examine into affairs relative to the state of the trade here as much as could have been desired. However, as far as I can see, business is not particularly bright, taken as a whole, and we would not advise any one coming to Philadelphia for work just at present at least.

It gave us pleasure during our sojourn at New Orleans to see how highly the PRINTER was appreciated by the large body of intelligent printers there assembled. We notice you have some thought of doubling up next October. After mature reflection we give it as our opinion that you had better leave it the way it is. To properly appreciate and devour a journal like the PRINTER requires, in our humble opinion, one whole month.

As the session of the I. T. U. just closed is now a subject of observation, we desire to state that Philadelphia printers seem to be well pleased with the results attending the meeting, and your correspondent is requested to reciprocate the fraternal greetings which he was requested to convey to the city of Pennsylvania by the printers of those towns and cities in which he stopped in going to and returning from the convention. More anon.

C. W. M.

### GOOD ADVICE.

To the Editor:

NEW YORK, June 24, 1884.

I agree with Mr. Pascoe in this, that there is no reason why a young man should not succeed in the job printing business as well as an older one. He may not strike right into a thriving trade; indeed, it would be strange if he did, for we all know, more or less, by experience, that the starter at job printing can only be successful by energetic, honest, careful labor. Customers are not to be had for the asking; they must be earnestly sought after, and when obtained they must be well served, for the confidence they have placed in the printer cannot be retained by slovenly work. I know it to be a fact, on the other hand, that when a business man knows he will get good work from his printer, he will not withdraw his trade from any slight cause.

Let the job printer be reasonable in his charges and deal fairly, and when a customer leaves an order without making any agreement as to price or stock, his trust is not to be abused by his being overcharged for an inferior job.

By all means let a job printer start in business while young. Is it not reasonable to suppose that a young man, ardently ambitious to make his way, his energies unblunted by age, has the odds in his favor that he will be successful? He must make a most careful selection for his plant, and when he has secured a good location, he must buckle to with all his best efforts.

But now comes one of the greatest drawbacks to the sympathy of his contemporaries. It is this: In canvassing for work, he will some-

times take a job for almost nothing, in order, as he tells himself, to gain a prospective customer. How often have I heard this practice bitterly complained of by printers, old in the business, as being inestimably ruinous to the trade. I do not advise the job printer to charge steep prices, by any means. Let him make his estimate as low as is consistent with good work, and not, just to keep a man from going to some other printer, equally reprehensible, do the job for nothing. Let new starters guard against this, and then, with the good will of all, may they "Go in and win." Yours, etc., WM. MEYER, JR.

### UNDUE COMPETITION.

To the Editor:

SALT LAKE CITY, June 26, 1884.

Believing that the practice of undercutting and ruinous bidding for work will only be checked by exposing the figures when opportunity offers, that all may see the folly and profit by the exposé, I send you the following: A bid was called for 500 copies of a 60-page octavo pamphlet, in long primer, on 50 lb. book and 70 lb. cover paper. A close calculation was made on the manuscript and the measurement was 99,000 ems. The firm figuring put the job down to estimated cost and quoted \$90. Another house took the job for \$60. Will you be kind enough to tell me, through your paper, what a fair printing-house in your city would take that job for? By "fair," I mean a house that takes into consideration all the items of cost connected with the job, such as wear and tear, waste, expense, etc., in giving an estimate.

The trade of this city is quiet. There are five newspapers, one of them in the Danish language; one exclusively magazine and book house; four book binderies; three exclusively job printing-houses; three of the newspapers have job offices; connected with one of the newspapers is also a magazine and book department, where one magazine is printed in the Swedish language, and considerable work is turned out. Composition on newspapers, 50 cents per thousand, and weekly wages \$18.

There seems to be a general desire among job printers to turn out decent work, and your correspondent hopes to see the time when they will not permit anything but first-class work to leave their shops.

Your "Hints to Apprentices" are good, and appreciated by one who has labored in the same cause. Keep it up; you will do the boys an immense amount of good. Yours truly, P. E. M.

### AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION.

To the Editor :

ATLANTA, GA., June 16, 1884.

I have noticed several copies of your paper, and fully appreciate the valuable service you are rendering the craft. As you solicit contributions from us, and as there is a matter in which I, in common with many others, am much interested, I accept your invitation for the purpose of calling your attention to our necessity. There are over fifteen hundred wood engravers in the country without a single representative organ that I am aware of. If a paper, or even less—a column or so—were devoted to that interest, I am sure it would greatly enhance the value and sale of your paper and render valuable service not only to men of that art, but to pressmen generally. I think I speak advisedly, being myself a pressman, and one who does all his own wood engraving.

It is absolutely necessary to a proper understanding of the first that there be some knowledge of the latter; in fact, to one occupying the position I do in a large job office, such information is a sine qua non. That your circulation will be greatly increased there can be no doubt, from statements made to me by fellow workmen in this city, which is but a common feeling, I presume. Almost daily there are improvements being made of which we desire to be informed, and the same is true of materials, instruments, etc., and where these can be gotten best. For these, and many other reasons, I ask if you will not devote some of your valuable space to this rapidly growing interest. I think it part of a pressman's trade to know how a woodcut is made, that his making ready may be easily attained, and thus know better, for a good, clear impression of a woodcut, whether to cut out, overlay, underlay, or pare the edges of the impressions. By knowing how a cut is made they will know how an impression should look.

Respectfully,

F. T. R.

### COMPROMISING CREDITORS

To the Editor:

CHICAGO, June 19, 1884.

THE INLAND PRINTER has forcibly and justly attacked the pernicious and destructive habit of "compromising," which threatens to
ruin the printing as well as the paper business, and has made suggestions regarding a remedy, which may relieve but will not cure the
trouble. In all the articles, in different publications, which the writer
has seen on the subject, none seem to strike at the root of the evil.
Attacks are made on paper dealers and ink dealers for giving credit to
firms which are entitled to none, and when the inevitable end, failure,
comes, they are censured for taking 10, 15 or 25 cents on the dollar in
settlement of their claims.

But the dealers in paper and ink are not the parties who are responsible for starting in business a class of fungus printers who are growing more numerous and dangerous, and whose influence is being felt most injuriously by the regular trade.

The parties who are directly to blame for their existence are the dealers in presses and printers' supplies, who will sell on long time, with a very small payment down, and secure themselves by a cutthroat blanket mortgage. After an office, encumbered for three-fourths its value, has struggled along a year or two; after all it has earned has been swallowed by the only protected creditor, it is forced to succumb, and those who have been inveigled into giving credit, on false appearances or representations, are left to accept only what the office is able to offer through the generosity (?) of the party who originally furnished it, and who magnanimously (?) agrees to take less than his claim, in order to enable the office to continue in business.

Should one of the unsecured creditors decline such a settlement, the result is not the closing of the office, for it is taken by the mortgagee, and with hardly any cessation of work, sold over on similar *liberal* terms to the original purchasers under a different name.

When a firm has worked its credit to the uttermost, a thrifty secured jobber can, by the simple process of foreclosure, scoop the creditors, regain the office, sell it over, and still hold it securely. In other words, the press dealers "Eat their cake and keep it, too."

Yours truly,

LONE JACK.

### HINTS ON OPENING ENVELOPES.

To the Editor:

BRISTOL, Conn., June 17, 1884.

Some time ago there appeared an article in your columns giving some hints in regard to printing envelopes, and while I heartily endorse the suggestions of the writer, I think I know of a better way of opening the envelopes. And right here let me say that no printer who cares for his reputation or for his type will run envelopes without opening, notwithstanding the assertions of pressmen, who ought to know better, that it does not injure type. I never yet knew of an office where they did not practice opening envelopes, but what the type, let it be gothic, antique or hair-line, showed the effect in the loss of sharpness of outline,—one of the greatest beauties of good printing.

My method of opening is as follows: Slip the bands and place from three to six bunches on the feed-table, face up, flaps toward feeder; then as the press starts pick up an envelope with the right hand, thumb under, fingers on face, bringing it in front of the platen, then seizing the lower part of the envelope with the left hand, with the right quickly turn up the flap so that the right hand will again hold it with the thumb below the flap just above the fold, and the fingers just over the fold. The envelope is then ready to be placed in the guides, and if the feeder will lightly hold it in place till the grippers close he will never be troubled by white streaks, poor register or type-batter. In removing to delivery-table reach over the envelope with the fingers, slide upward on the platen, and with a little assistance from the thumb the flap will fly back into place and the envelope go onto the table as flat as it came out of the box. It may seem difficult at first, but after a little practice the feeder will find no trouble in opening and feeding as rapidly as he can feed cards.

Before closing I want to say just a word in regard to THE INLAND PRINTER. It is, in my opinion, the most practical printers' journal published; and while the subscription price places it within the reach

of every printer, it will compare favorably with the trade journals costing two and three dollars per year. If printers would have interest enough in their work to take and read such a publication, there would be no occasion for such articles as "An Era of Botches," etc.

Yours, etc.,

WM. A. PRINGLE.

### WORDS OF WISDOM.

To the Editor:

CHICAGO, June 30, 1884.

A word regarding "The Plaster of Paris Nuisance." I admit that plaster is often used unnecessarily, and the writer of the article under the above caption in the last number of THE INLAND PRINTER admits that there are instances when it is "indispensable." But in using the stuff, experience is necessary to successful results, and the boy must begin sometime to get that experience. Plaster swells as it sets, and allowance should be made therefor by having the justification loose, and then the line will not bind nor the curve lose its symmetry. Oiling the material will, in a large degree, prevent the plaster from adhering; and if it is convenient to do so it will not be time wasted, as the distribution and cleaning will be so much easier. Kerosene or benzine poured over the job just before plastering will serve as a substitute to the extent of the oil they contain.

The specimens of rulework shown in the last two or three numbers of the PRINTER are undoubtedly good, and evidence a talent in that direction on the part of the compositors who produced them; but the question of practical utility is one that cannot be passed over, especially in a city office. In the country, where the price of labor is low, and there is plenty of time at the compositor's disposal, this class of work may pay. Engravers are too numerous and convenient to get at, however, in a large city, to make it profitable to have a compositor spend a large amount of time on a design which can be made so much better by an engraver, who can bring out in his work all the fine points of detail, shading, etc., leaving the printer to do his share of the work, which the engraver cannot do.

A fruitful source of wear on the fine lines and seriffs of types is the practice indulged in by some compositors and pressmen of rubbing over the lines in a form with the palm of the hand or tips of the fingers when they wish to see the type more distinctly. The rough skin of the hand acts like a fine file, and rounds off the type very rapidly.

S. K. P.

### SHORT-HOUR LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA.

To the Editor:

PHILADELPHIA, June 28, 1884.

During the month of May a communication was sent to the different labor organizations throughout the city signed by Mr. Jno. D. Allen, of the Carpenters' Union, as temporary secretary, asking for the appointment of representatives to a preliminary meeting to be held on June 19, 1884, for the purpose of agitating the short-hour question.

In accordance with the above, forty-five delegates, representing twenty different labor organizations, met on Thursday evening, June 19, at Buffalo's Hall, Tenth and Callowhill streets, and effected a temporary organization by the election of the following officers: President, Thos. McGilloway, shoemaker; Secretary, John L. Duffy, plasterer; Treasurer, James A. Wright, garment cutter. Several excellent addresses were made on the subject of shorter hours, calling for a more general agitation of the matter among the working classes.

The intent and purpose of the Short-Hour League is not to inaugurate any uniform reduction in the hours of labor, nor to dictate to any union the number of hours its members shall work; but to agitate the subject by holding meetings in different parts of the city, and by the dissemination of literature bearing upon the question among the laboring classes.

A committee on permanent organization was appointed, being required to report at a future meeting to be held in about three weeks. To this meeting all the trade unions in the city will be invited to send delegates, and those represented at the preliminary meeting asked to send permanent representatives.

A committee on hall was also appointed, for the purpose of obtaining a more desirable place of meeting.

The following is the *personnel* of the committees: Committee on Permanent Organization, Messrs. Bisbing (chairman), Foster, Cotton, Wright and Orrick; Committee on Hall, Messrs. Grubb (chairman), Welsh and Chitty.

To this preliminary meeting Typographical Union No. 2 sent the following named representatives, who, upon reporting at the last meeting of the Union, were made permanent delegates: Wm. H. Foster (chairman), James Welsh and D. M. Pascoe. RAGAU.

### CUTTING PRICES.

To the Editor :

ROME, N. Y., June 23, 1884.

Having read "B's" letter in last issue of the PRINTER on the subject of "Variation in Figures," wherein he cites the instance of four Kansas printers, who had estimated for a certain job, and shows the wonderful difference in the prices given by the two latter, I endorse his sentiment, when he says, in conclusion, "It is a point worth thinking about." Having been a boss printer for a number of years in the old country, and since then a foreman in other English towns, I have had, on more than one occasion, to write on this same subject, and to point out to printers the ruinous and demoralizing influence this system of cutting prices was sure eventually to bring about. It has today in many towns in England reduced the business of a printer to that low ebb, that many offices exist barely getting out of their work sufficient remuneration to pay rent, etc., and keep "body and soul together." The following suggestions, which I made to English printers on this subject some few years ago, may be of some little interest at the present time to my brother craftsmen in America. The trade of a printer is both trying and deceptive, especially when he finds himself hemmed up in a corner by low prices. A ready-money order for a hurriedly required job is a gudgeon which is often eagerly thrown out and as eagerly snapped at by the headless printer, who finds to his grief, when all things are considered in the getting out of the job, that his profit is nil—the only consolation left being that it was a "ready-money" order. Transactions which will not leave a decent profit should be discarded at once, and the printer who is not quick enough to see this will be practically taught a lesson some day which he will not find an easy matter to get over or to erase from his mind. The prices offered for job printing are growing a source of great embarrassment to printers, and unfortunately many are to be found willing to undertake jobs at so much per cent below what may be considered a reasonable figure; but printers have to thank themselves principally for the ruinous competition which seems to grow keener day by day. The printer who has to give a quotation, instead of taking the trouble to prepare a proper estimate, and work out thoroughly each item of cost, will sometimes come to the conclusion that he can do it for so much, or possibly hears that a competitor has previously done a similar job for so and so, and, without troubling himself whether the competitor gained or lost by the transaction, instantly gives a lower quotation, in order to secure the work. There can be no doubt that many of the unremunerative prices charged by printers are the result of ignorance as to the correct way of estimating cost and profit, rather than, in many instances, to any desire to undersell others. Some printers will reckon the cost of composition, making probably no allowance for corrections, paper and ink, and labor in working off, then put on a certain percentage for profit and think they have arrived at a safe conclusion. Such a haphazard way of calculating will certainly lead to low prices. A bare living will be the result of this plan, accompanied by all the worry and excitement of a hand-to-mouth existence; but after years of laborious industry he who trades so loosely finds his plant worn out, and himself without the means wherewith to replenish it. Better to allow plant to stand still than to wear it out for nothing; better allow the reckless trader to take the unprofitable work than to retain it at a loss. Cheap printers cannot possibly turn out their work so well as those who aim at excellence rather than cheapness, and a very little effort on the part of printers generally to educate the public as to the difference in the quality of work will and must naturally assist in obtaining better prices. When printers have a suspicion (as instanced in the case of Kansas) of a job being sent around to get the lowest price, I see no reason why the question should not be plainly and squarely put-" Is the price to be

quoted against another printer?" If the respectable printers of any city or town were to agree in refusing to give estimates for all work under \$10, a marked improvement in prices would doubtless be the result. Such united action might also be followed by agreeing to one uniform price for common kinds of work, and printers so agreeing might treat with indifference a minority which might decline to join them in their protective measures. The same cupidity which leads to cutting prices would induce such outsiders to raise their prices to within a fraction of the recognized list, and a better tone would be the inevitable result.

I. B. MANNING.

### CHEAP LABOR NOT PROFITABLE.

To the Editor :

CHICAGO, June 28, 1884.

The failures of printing-offices in Chicago for some months past have, without exception, been confined to establishments employing "non-union" workmen, and which, in essential management, have, either from principle or an antagonistic influence, made it their custom to pay for labor a rate of wages below the scale of prices which prevails in establishments known as "union" offices.

The fact that these failures have obtained among non-union offices is an indisputable one. How far their disruption has been hastened by mismanagement, or no management, of internal affairs from their counting-rooms is a matter which can concern no one but the unfortunate creditors.

So far as these acts of bankruptcy have a relation to the rate of wages paid, the matter becomes of great interest to the thoughtful printer of union principles and associations, and gives rise to the question, pregnant with concern to all intelligent workmen, "Does the cheaper labor pay — pay the workman or enrich the employer?" To the first division of the question an unqualified No is the proper answer. It admits of no discussion. To give reply to the second division is the chief motive of this article.

The general proposition is stated to be, that non-union printing offices can not and do not pay. The cost of production is increased in greater proportion by the employment of cheap labor. This must be under-tood as applying principally to the conduct of printing-offices which are in many essential features distinct from other manufacturing establishments.

The quality of non-union labor is generally poor—inferior in mechanical ability and lacking in earnest desire to serve the employer by careful attention to detail and workmanlike conduct. These qualifications wanting in the printer, it follows that a greater expense is attendant to the production of his work,—that is to say, an expense arising from the necessity for more superintendence, care in proof-reading, and attention to the details which follow the type from the galley to the press. This must be the case, if the employer desires to deliver perfect work to his customers.

This broad assertion is made advisedly. It is a fact patent to the well instructed printer and the experienced foreman; it is clearly demonstrated by the mechanical condition of the printing-office itself. In one is economy of action and a care for material; in the other is waste of labor and destruction of property—and all resulting in a drain to the purse of the employer which cannot be balanced by the saving derived from the 50 cents or \$1 less per day paid to the journeyman.

Further demonstration will appear taking into consideration the moral aspect of the question. The man who is paid a rate of wages known to be the equivalent of a fair day's work has an incentive to labor for the interest and benefit of his employer. His work is carefully begun, judiciously continued, and ended with pride; always keeping in view not less the reputation of the office than the reputation of himself for excellence of work.

Again the assertion, the saving from well-paid labor is greater than that resulting from ill-paid labor. It will be difficult for some non-union employers and non-union workmen to become converted to this doctrine. To those who in years of well conducted business have always employed the better paid and the well instructed man, no word-of argument or of exhortation is necessary to maintain the belief that "cheap labor is not profitable." They survive and prosper—the Cheap Johns wither and disappear.

### AN APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.

BY BELL.

Much has been said and written about the need of some system of instruction which shall make thorough workmen of boys who enter American printing-offices to learn the printing business, and yet the importation of foreign laborers continues, to the disadvantage of native talent, except, perhaps, in the single item of display,-and even that may be accounted for by the tendency of novelty and a progressive taste, both in material and design, as against an extreme utilitarianism and a biased conservatism. That we do not, nay, cannot produce our own printers may be pardonably true; but another truth—that we do not concern ourselves about the boys, so long as we can get our good men from abroad - should spur us on to take active measures for the removal of what looks like a foundation for the taunts which we sometimes hear from foreign craftsmen. The English, Scotch and German apprenticeship systems, with proper modifications, would, with the assistance of the law of the land, secure all that is desired. How to bring the matter under the notice of the several state legislatures is, therefore, the main consideration. It is doubtful if success would crown any initial attempt in this direction, but that should not deter future efforts. If our legislators could be impressed with the necessity as the craft understands it, the road to a better condition of things would be comparatively easy.

But there is one feature about." binding "boys which might require much competent discussion, namely, the length of time requisite to thoroughly teach an apprentice what he ought to know. The short terms of three and four years,-though, perhaps, sufficient to acquaint him with the details of the department of his choice (as, for instance, the composing department),-must of necessity be inadequate to so establish him that he may become inured to his business as a printer in the sense of a devotee. And here is a secret, as well as a difficulty, which in the consideration of an apprenticeship system must not be overlooked. If an apprenticeship is not all the good it is intended to be, it would be worse than waste time to inaugurate it. A boy must become devoted to his trade, to the exclusion of other trades, whether there is "more money" in them or not, or else he will be an indifferent workman. On the other hand, the seven years term may, after due deliberation, be deemed too long, because the conditions under which an apprentice begins his trade in countries where indentures of apprenticeship are used are different from those which he would be required to subscribe to in this country. An examination of the following copy of a short form of English indenture will make this

The words "lawful commands" (outside of large cities) cover a good deal of ground, and must be construed to mean a progress through the successive stages of the printing business something like this, the figures meaning the "terms":

- 1. Washing ink-tables, sweeping, sorting pi, delivering, collecting, and doing odd jobs around the office.
  - 2. Sweeping, sorting pi, rolling small forms, delivering, collecting.
- 3. Straight composition, rolling in general, washing and caring for rollers, delivering, collecting.
- 4. Composition and coarse presswork, and the taking down, cleaning and setting up of presses; and, in many country offices, apprentices at this stage are expected to understand something about making rollers, as well as binding checkbooks, making tablets, etc.
- 5. Composition (book and display), fine presswork, and the charge of one or two subordinates.

6 and 7. Competent hand, under finishing instructions.

Opinions differ with regard to the justice of retaining a "competent hand" in servitude; but it is more than probable that, with a "little encouragement" betimes from his employer, the last two years of a boy's apprenticeship are the happiest days of his life, and that it is just this period, of the entire seven years of his novitiate, that fastens him down to his calling and "makes a man of him."

There is something, too, more than appears at first sight, in the age at which it is considered advisable, in Europe, to place a youth at his business by apprenticeship. The reason will not differ greatly on this side of the ocean. At fourteen, notwithstanding the importance which is, as a general thing, taken on, a boy is most impressible; he can be moulded and set to any calling for which he may by education or natural bent be qualified.

In any future disposition of the apprenticeship question, the placing of boys under specified instructors in our large offices should have ample consideration and be well provided for. If there is anything beyond unfitness that can cause a beginner to dislike his vocation, it is that of having "too many bosses." A workman who is competent to train a boy must be chosen; and he must be also the boy's master, to be successful with his pupil, who, in turn, will become a thorough craftsman, for "as the twig is bent the tree is inclined."

The sooner an apprenticeship system is established in America, the sooner will an end come to the influx of poorly-informed "typesetters" who stroll about our cities or hold situations that should be filled by competent workmen. The presentation of positive proof of ability in the form of apprenticeship indentures, together with a working card, or the production of the former as the sine qua non to the latter, would in due time result in a beneficial economy

Production of the control of the con	c time result in a senement economy.
years or thereabouts by and with the consent of his Father — of — of these presents doth put himself APPRENTICE to — of Art and with him after the Manner of an Apprentice to serve from the Years from thence next following to be fully complete and ended DURING his secrets keep his lawful commands everywhere gladly of others but to his Power shall tell or forthwith give war of his said Master nor lend them unlawfully to any he	in the County of aforesaid testified by his execution in the County of aforesaid PRINTER to learn his day of the date hereof unto the full End and Term of Seven which Term the said Apprentice his Master faithfully shall serve do he shall do no damage to his said Master nor see to be done ning to his said Master of the same he shall not waste the Goods shall not commit fornication nor contract Matrimony within the
any loss with his own Goods or others during the said sell he shall not haunt Taverns or Playhouses nor absen	the said Apprentice sufficient Meat Drink Lodging and all other we of Meat Drink Lodging and all other Necessaries during the enticeship the sum of ———————————————————————————————————
the Stati year of said Appleinteesing the stati of per week and per week AND for the true performance of all and every the said Covena the other by these Presents In Witness whereof the Parties above and Seals the day of and in the Year of the Reight Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Defender of the Faith and Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of of in the County of }	ants and Agreements either of the said Parties bindeth himself unto named to these Indentures interchangeably have put their Hands on of our Sovereign ——— by the Grace of God of the United

N. B. The Indenture Covenant Article or Contract must bear date the day it is executed and what Money or other thing is given or contracted for with the Clerk or Apprentice must be inserted in Words at length otherwise the Indenture will be wid the Master forfeit Fifty Pounds and another Penalty and the Apprentice be disabled to follow his trade or be made Free.

\*For Indoor Apprentice.

† For Outdoor Apprentice.

### SONG OF THE PRINTER.

Pick and click Go the types in the stick, As the printer stands at the case: His eyes glance quick, and his fingers pick The types at a rapid pace. And one by one as the letters go, Words are piled up steady and slow -Steady and slow, But still they grow, And words of fire they soon will glow; Wonderful words, that without a sound Shall traverse the earth to its utmost bound -Words that shall make The tyrant quake, And the bonds of the slave and oppress'd shall break; Words that can crumble an army's might, Or treble its strength in a righteous fight; Yet the types they looked but leaden and dumb As he put them in place with his finger and thumb. But the printer smiled,

And his work beguiled By chanting a song as the letter is piled; While pick and click Went the types in the stick,

Like the world's chronometer - tick, tick, tick. Oh, where is the man, with simple tools, Can govern the world like I? A printing-press, an iron stick, And a little leaden die; With paper of white, and ink of black, I support the right and the wrong attack.

I pull the strings Of puppet kings, And I tweak the despot's nose; Or I let him alone

Till the people groan, When I needs must interpose;

Nor yet again Do I e'en disdain To talk of lowly woes.

Then where is he, Or who may he be, That can rival the printer's power? To no monarch they live,

The well doth he give, Their sway only lasts for an hour; While the printer's still grows, And God alone knows When his might shall cease to tower.

### HINTS TO PRESSMEN.

(Continued.)

19. Find out whether the presswork desired is to be common, good, or fine, and how much time can be allowed for making ready. The time allowed must determine the quality of the work. Begin by bringing up with underlays all lines of types or plates that are low. The underlay is to be preferred to the overlay only when it brings the low matter up to the inking-rollers, as well as to impression. Cut underlays from proofs, which will show you where to cut, and where to fasten them. The proper size and thickness of an underlay can be known only by experiment. Cut out of a proof every feebly printed spot, and fasten the part cut out on the feet of the type. The proof taken after such an underlay has been affixed should show improvement; but the center may be, probably will be, still too feeble. To correct this, cut another underlay from the second proof, which will be of smaller size, and put it under the first. If this is not enough, cut and put on a third, taking care that the smallest shall always be next to the bed of the press. Avoid underlaying any part of the form which

shows up fairly on the proof. At this stage of the work, do not put a needlessly thick underlay under a heavy-faced cut or type, because you think it will need much impression. This extra impression will be most fairly given by an overlay. Do not put a thick underlay under the corner or under one-half of a large type; for if the type rocks or tilts, as it probably will, under impression, the tilting will work up the furniture and quadrats. Use but little paste, for the moisture in it will swell the wood it touches. For very low lines or blocks, cardboard is better than paper. Put all underlays on smoothly, without fold or wrinkle. When plates are on patent blocks, underlays may be freely used with excellent results; but the underlay should always be between the plate and the block. An underlay for a plate on a block should always be cut smaller than is indicated by the feeble spot on the proof, for there is a spring in the plate beyond the surface underlaid, which will make up the deficiency. Do not underlay too much; onefourth the surface of a type form is a large allowance. If more is attempted, the form is made springy, and this springiness will surely

20. Some of the finishing work in underlaying, previously directed for plate forms, can be done more neatly on type forms by use of " overlays. Where choice can be had, use overlays. The office of the underlay is the bringing up of low types or plates to inking rollers and reasonably even impression; the office of the overlay, the giving of finish and delicacy to impression.

21. To overlay a form, first paste upon the gripper edge of the cylinder two sheets of thin, hard paper. Take a pale proof on the paper provided for the work, observing all the directions previously given concerning margins. When margins are correct, take two proofs, one on thick and one on thin paper. Wherever there appears a decided weakness of impression on the proof, cut the weak part out, and neatly paste it down on the sheet next to the fast packing. Use a sharp knife, and cut upon a smooth surface, making no torn or ragged edges. It the work is fine, pare down the edges, so that the next proof will not show a sudden change of impression surface. Wherever there is but slight feebleness of impression, cut the overlay for it out of thin paper; and affix it in its place. Put on overlays smoothly; they are worse than useless if they bag or wrinkle. If an overlay has been badly placed, regard it as beyond repair. Do not try to patch it; tear all off and begin anew.

22. When the more conspicuous defects of impression have been overlaid, take other proofs on thin paper, and examine them for minor faults. From these proofs cut new overlays, which put on in the same manner, until a sufficiently even impression is obtained. If at any stage of the work, any rule or letter shows too high, cut it out of the packing sheets. If this cutting out does not sufficiently reduce impression, have the faulty letter taken out of the form, and have the batter (the usual cause) cut off.

23. For all work on wet paper printed against an elastic packing, overlays may be cut in large masses. For fine work, on dry paper, against hard packing, the overlays should be smaller and on thin paper. For the finest work, overlays are often needed for single letters and parts of letters, and they should often be of tissue paper.

24. Do not overlay hurriedly. It is the fault of a novice to cut overlays out of too thick paper, and to put them on in spots where they are not needed. An overlay so put on acts like an over-high type or bearer; it bears off the impression from other quarters; it increases work and makes the impression more uneven than before. Overlaying on hard packing should be done gradually, and a proof should be taken after each overlay has been put on. The pressmen who plan work for two or three layers of overlays will make fewer mistakes than those who try to do the work with one.

25. Do not overlay too much. Never make an overlay higher than the raised flange at the ends of the cylinder. If made higher, the circumference of the cylinder is so increased that it will not travel evenly with the bed. The high overlay will be moved by the scraping pressure necessarily produced, and the print will slur or mackle.

(To be continued.)

In thirty-eight years the number of English daily papers has increased from fourteen to one hundred and seventy-nine.

### LOCAL ITEMS.

Business is unusually dull in this city, even for this season of the year. Printers will do well to give Chicago a wide berth—for the time being, at least.

EMERY STORRS, the well-known lawyer, delivered an oration on the late S. Beach, of the firm of Beach & Barnard, at the last meeting of the Typographical Union.

It is expected that Typographical Union No. 16 will turn out in full force, with banners and a band of music, at the picnic of the Trades Assembly, to be held at Ogden's Grove on Sunday, July 27. A-splendid time is anticipated.

WE received a very pleasant call a few days since from Mr. M. R. Dempsey, of the printing department of Robert Clark & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Dempsey assures us that The Inland Printer is very much appreciated by the craft in Ohio.

THE trade and labor organizations of Chicago hold their annual picnic at Ogden's Grove, on Sunday, July 27. The Typographical Union will participate in the monster procession which will parade on the occasion, and which, it is expected, will be the largest ever seen in the West.

ON July 15, 1884, there will be issued in this city the first number of a monthly to be devoted to the interests of paper makers and paper dealers of America, under the title of *The American Paper Trade*. J. Fred. Waggoner is announced as manager. Subscription price \$1.00 per year.

A NEW TYPE FOUNDRY.—Messrs. Ostrander, Müller & Huke, 81 and 83 E. Jackson street, are now engaged in fitting up their type foundry with new and unique designs. They intend to add from time to time, as circumstances warrant, all the improvements the art of typography affords the craft in general, as a special study of the same for the past thirty years peculiarly enables them to do.

WE are indebted to Mr. R. Timroth, of Rand, McNally & Co's pressroom, for a photographic print portrait of the Hon. J. G. Blaine, 20 by 25 inches. It is printed on enameled paper, from metal and wood, and is the first production of the kind ever issued in this city. It reflects the highest credit on Mr. Timroth's ability as a workman and the establishment with which he is connected.

THE well known firm of Ostrander & Huke, printing-press, electrotype and stereotype machinery manufacturers, has been changed to that of Ostrander, Müller & Huke. All the members of the firm are practical, first-class workmen, who are now prepared to execute in the highest style of the art all orders in their line of business committed to their trust. No higher recommendation is required that the assurance that the same excellence which marked the productions of the old firm will be zealously maintained under the new organization.

BUSINESS CHANGE.— Mr. W. H. Kerkhoff, so many years known as the general western agent of R. Hoe & Co., press manufacturers, has recently connected himself with the Bullock Press Company, Nos. 52, 54 and 56 Illinois street, in this city, and takes the management of that concern. Mr. K. is emphatically the right man in the right place, and under his control we feel satisfied the business of this firm will be appreciably increased. The Inland Printer, at least, wishes him abundant success in his new field of labor.

THE UNION TYPE FOUNDRY.—Announcement is made that the partnership heretofore existing under the firm name of Wanner, Webber & Co. has been dissolved, and a stock company incorporated entitled The Union Type Foundry, which will continue the type foundry and printers' supply business of the old firm at 54 and 56 Franklin street. With increased capital and facilities the new firm confidently expects that the printing public will find it to their advantage to favor them with a continuance of their patronage. The agencies of the old and well known Boston Type Foundry and the Central Type Foundry of St. Louis are retained, as also the Holly wood type manufactured by Messrs. Hamilton & Katz.

AN IMPROVED FEED GUIDE.—We call the attention of our readers to the card of Messrs. Blocher & Underwood, to be found in our advertising columns. The special advantage claimed for it—one of no

mean importance—is, the side-guide straightens the sheet if crookedly fed, so that there is no loss of stock, as has been too often the case in the past, where careless or inexperienced feeders have been employed. The following are a few of the firms in whose establishments the guide may be seen in successful operation: Knight & Leonard, C. W. Magill, No. 109 Madison street, city; N. Chapin & Son, No. 51 Clark street; Shepard & Johnston, Taylor Building; Amboy News, Amboy, Ill.; Rock Falls News, Rock Falls, Ill.; Department of Interior Branch Printing Office, Washington, D. C.; S. P. Rounds, United States Public Printer; Dixon Sun, Dixon Telegraph, Dixon, Ill.

A VAST throng of workingmen turned out on Saturday evening, July 5, to receive Gen. B. F. Butler, who has endeared himself to organized labor by numberless acts of kindness and sympathy, and has often successfully defended trades union men arrested under so-called conspiracy laws, for which valuable aid he declined recompense in money. Democrats and Republicans alike joined in the ovation, wearing badges with Butler's portrait, fastened to the lapel of the coat with a combination spoon and pin. Bands of music, transparences and calcium lights enlivened the enthusiastic workers, and their shouts for Butler were re-echoed by dense masses of sympathizers which lined the streets. A feature of the procession was an enormous spoon, bearing the motto, "This spoon will sweep the barnacles from the ship of state." It was arranged that P. H. McLogan, of the Typographical Union, should deliver to Butler an address of welcome when the procession reached the Palmer House, and it was expected a reply would be had from the General, and a platform had been erected in the street for the purpose, but so dense and enthusiastic was the crowd when Butler appeared that this part of the programme was utterly impossible. Nothing but a cannon could have been heard. McLogan was crowded out of place and lost entirely, and the General was dragged back to a place of safety in the hotel. There is no question of the genuineness of the feeling exhibited, and other presidential candidates must have envied the "cock-eyed son of destiny."

### OF INTEREST TO THE CRAFT.

EVERY paper in Denver, Colo., is now employing union men and paying 45 cents per 1000 ems.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 3, of Cincinnati, after two meetings of discussion, passed a resolution favoring the eight-hour system.

THE continuation of Mr. Stephen McNamara's article on the history of the printing-press will be found in the present issue. It is well worth perusal.

THE proposed International Copyright bill introduced and championed by Mr. Dorsheimer, of New York, has received its quietus, having been killed by an adverse report in the House.

THERE has been recently added to the printing department of the Kansas Agricultural College at Manhattan a new country Babcock press and a 7 by 11 O. S. Gordon jobber, Glad to hear it.

THE NEW ORLEANS Typographical Union imposes a fine of twenty-five cents for every non-attendance at its meetings, when no reasonable excuse for absence is furnished. The fine must be paid or no card is given.

TEN minutes after the announcement that Jas. G. Blaine had been nominated reached Monmouth, Ill., the *Gazette* of that town was on the street containing the intelligence, together with a sketch of the life of the nominee.

THE San Diego *Union* has completed the thirteenth volume of its daily edition. In a review of the last thirteen years it strikes the keynote of successful journalism by saying, "No newspaper worthy of the name will timidly trim its course for fear of offending prejudices or arousing opposition."

THERE has been difficulty in the *Times* news office, Winnipeg, arising from the foreman borrowing matter from the *Free Press* without the knowledge or consent of the proprietor of the latter office. The compositors of the *Times* demanded that the matter borrowed should be equally divided among them. To this the foreman demurred, and a strike was the result.

The following	illustration explains the system	of self-spacing type,
recently introduced	l by a Milwaukee foundry:	

One unit.—Space.	1
Two units.—Space, fijl.,:;'-!1'\. Total,	14
Three units.—Quad, cegrstz?) † ‡ * § ]    ¶ I c j s T z - °.	
Total,	25
Four units Quad, a b d h k n o p q u v x y fi fl ff \$ £ 1 2 3 4	
567890CJSZABDEFGHKLNOPQRUVXY&	
1/4 1/2 1/4 1/3 1/3 1/8 1/8 1/8 1/8 -         Total,	67
Five units.—w æ æ A B D E F G L N O P Q R T U V Y & M	
WÆŒĦb. Total,	25
Six units.—Quad, m ffi ffl H K M X — P. Total,	II
Seven units.—W Æ Œ @. Total,	
Twelve units.—Quad, par — Total,	5
Grand total to the font,	152

### FOREIGN.

THERE are seventy-two newspapers published in Mexico.

THE number of printing-offices in London in 1805 was 200; now there are over 2,000.

In Paris there are 4,500 compositors and 300 licensed printers. There are also 500 master lithographers, employing 5,000 workpeople — men, women and children.

RACEO MINA, an Italian author, who has dedicated a book to Postmaster-General Gresham, now asks that official to send him enough money to cover the expense of printing the first edition.

According to the latest returns, the number of volumes in the British Museum is over 1,300,000. There are over 160 miles of shelves, and about 20 more miles to be filled. It is calculated that about one ton of literature is sent in daily.

THE Lyttleton Times, published daily at Christchurch, New Zealand, is now one of the foremost papers in that colony. On March 15 the Times was issued for the first time from a new and imposing building in Gloucester street, and in commemoration of the event two supplements were given away with the issue for the day.

THE London *Printing Times and Lithographer*, in its "Legal Jottings," tells of a precocious youth who willfully destroys engravings and electrotypes to the amount of £15 in order to get rid of his indentures to the printing trade. Although the indentures were canceled, the alderman sentenced him to two months' hard labor.

AGAIN we have an assurance, this time from Paris, that the problem of machine composition has been solved. Each machine produces 6,000 an hour (including distribution), and the cost is only 10 fr. 50 cent. per day (\$2.10). This would bring down the price of composition to 17 centimes per thousand. The machines are termed velo-types.

THE *Publishers' Circular* gives the number of books published in England in 1883 at 4,732. Of these 794 were theological, 556 educational and philosophical, 414 history and biography, 349 fiction, 210 voyages and travels, 187 political and social economy, 163 medical and surgical, and 130 law and jurisprudence. Fiction was responsible for but a thirteenth.

THE success of the first competition initiated by M. Berthier among French jobbing printers has induced the author to arrange for a second one for 1884. Competing work must be sent in by April 15. Two prizes, of 200 and 300 francs, will be given for a composition in brass rules and borders, size medium quarto to folio, of practical value; and one prize of 150 francs for presswork, black or colored. Two smaller prizes will be given besides in each case. Persons successful in the 1883 contest cannot compete for prizes.

FAST COMPOSITION.—At the printers' tournament a couple of months ago, at Berlin, in the Court Printing Office of Herr Buxenstein, the measure to which the composition was done was sixty-two letters, the German system of typographic computation being based upon the letters of the alphabet, not upon ems, as with us. Reprint copy was placed before all the competitors and bourgeois type used. The smallest amount was 2,500 letters in one hour, and 3,124 the largest amount. In the second tournament the first prize went to Herr Kramer, who picked up 9,415 letters in three hours.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

RULING-INKS can be made to dry quickly by adding half a gill of methylated spirits to every pint of ink. The spirit is partly soaked into the paper and partly evaporates; it also makes the lines firm.

To Make Old Writings Legible.—In a pint of boiling water put six bruised gall nuts, and let it stand for three days. Wash the writing with the mixture to restore the color, and if not strong enough, add more galls.

CLOSE WORK.—Lord Chatham brought an action against Henry Sampson Woodfall, publisher of the *Public Advertiser*, for a libel. On the discovery of the variation of one letter between the printing and the the record, his lordship was nonsuited.

FREDERICK W. DUNNELL, of Tompkinsville, N. Y., has patented an end cap for paper rolls. It consists of a sheet metal cylindrical band, with an inwardly projecting scalloped edge, and with an end fastening to adapt it to be applied to the end of the roll.

RICE PASTE.— This is especially to be recommended in cases where it is desired that the objects pasted on or together shall undergo no change in color or shading. It is prepared by mixing rice flour and water, which mixture is then heated slowly to boiling point, until the required consistency is obtained. It possesses great adhesive power.

MR. COURTLAND CARLTON, of Kalamazoo, Mich., has secured a patent for a perforating device. The invention is quite novel in construction, its chief features consisting of perforating or cutting devices for separating or partially separating the paper at the time of printing.

An extensible clasp for books has been patented by Mr. Jacob Monch, of Offenbach-on-the-Main, Germany. The clasp is formed of two plates, one adapted to slide under the other, the lower one having a diagonal slot, into which a stud of a nut or block passes, so the clasp can be easily lengthened or shortened according to the thickness of the book.

STICKY TYPE.—It is said that types, especially new ones which have been papered and put away for a long time, and which consequently stick badly, may easily be separated by placing them on the stone and pouring a little glycerine upon them, leaving them to stand there over night. The glycerine may be washed away with warm water, when the types will be found ready for distribution.

THE name of foolscap, as applied to paper, is said to have originated in the following manner: During the Protectorate, Cromwell had all government paper stamped with a Liberty cap. After the Restoration, Charles II one day asked for some paper on which to write a letter, and noticing the stamp thereon, inquired what it meant. On being informed, he replied: "Take it away; none of your foolscap for me."

A WIPING and polishing apparatus for plate printing machines has been patented by Mr. Alexander Reid, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Combined with the reciprocating bed. of the press is a roller having slots, webs, paying-off spools, receiving spools, and means for rotating the spools and vertically reciprocating the roller; the whole being an improved device for wiping off surplus ink and polishing the plate before taking an impression.

BENTON, WALDO & Co., of Milwaukee, claim to have perfected a machine for cutting punches for original characters for type foundries in steel,—an invention which will much cheapen the ordinary process of cutting by hand. It will cut from the largest to the smallest punch—even to half-diamond; while as a time-saver, we may state that a piece of work now requiring four hours to perfect by the hand process can, under its operation, be turned out in half an hour.

An exchange contains the following recipe for printers' rollers: Best white glue, one pound; concentrated glycerine, one pound. Soak the glue over night in just enough cold soft water to cover it. Put the softened glue in a fine cloth bag, gently press out excess of water, and melt the glue by heating it over a salt-water bath. Then gradually stir in the glycerine and continue the heating, with occasional stirring, for several hours, or until as much of the water is expelled as possible. Cast in oiled brass molds, and give the composition plenty of time to cool and harden properly before removing from the mold and inking. See that the ink is well spread before bringing the roller in contact with type.

### NEW METAL QUOINS.

The accompanying illustration represents a new and economical style of metal quoin, double grooved, which, in our opinion, is a vast improvement over those now in use, because its wedge power is double that of any other quoin, as it can be used from one end of the metal to the other. It consists of two *fac-simile* wedges (no pairing) which may be locked together by the slightest use of an ordinary shooting-stick, and by an ingenious device, when once tightened, loosening becomes an impossibility. There are three sizes, each *interchangeable* with the other, thus enabling the lock-up to make a combination of three extra sizes, *six in all*,—an advantage which can be appreciated at a



glance. The larger sizes are especially adapted for newspaper and large forms, and the smaller ones, which can be used in a space not exceeding the width of double pica, for commercial job work. Whereever tested they have given perfect satisfaction, as it is conceded a truer or more compact lock-up could not be obtained. As stated, we feel satisfied that when thoroughly introduced they will command a ready sale.

Small sizes, per dozen\$	.50
Intermediate sizes, per dozen	-75
Large sizes, per dozen	1,00

A shooting stick designed for the quoins will be furnished if needed; price 25 cents. All orders addressed to Wanner, Weber & Co., 54 and 56 Franklin street, will receive prompt attention.

### BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

CORRECTED FROM MONTH TO MONTH.

Buffalo.—State of trade, fair; prospects, good; price of composition on morning papers, 33 cents; evening, 35 cents; bookwork, 35 cents; job printers, per week, \$15. There is a difficulty in the Courier office, the whole establishment being boycotted. Printers had better keep away.

Cambridge.—State of trade, very poor; prospects, poor; bookwork, 40 and 42 cents; job printers, per week, \$16 to \$18. No existing difficulty, but at present more printers are not needed.

Cincinnati.—State of trade, fair; prospects, slight; composition on morning papers, 40 cents; evening, 37 cents; bookwork, 40 cents; job printers, per week, \$18. No existing difficulty. The Sun, new daily (formerly News Journal) reducing cases. It is doubtful about the Sun living; will probably go down or be sold to new republican

Cleveland.—State of trade, not very good; composition on morning papers, 35 cents; evening, 33½ cents; bookwork, 35 cents; job printers, per week, \$14. No existing difficulty. Subbing on morning papers dull.

Denver.—State of trade, jobwork, dull; newspaper, quite good; composition on morning papers, 45 cents; evening, 45 cents; bookwork, 45 cents; job printers, per week, \$21. No difficulty. Plenty of men here to do all the work needed.

Detroit.—State of trade, medium; prospects, uncertain; composition on morning papers, 35 cents; evening, 32 cents; bookwork, 33½ cents; job printers, per week, \$14 to \$18. No difficulty. About to wind up city directory, which will cause duliness.

Harrisburg.—State of trade, fair; prospects, bright; composition on morning papers, 30 cents; evening, 30 cents; bookwork, 27 to 30 cents; job printers, per week, \$12 to \$13.50. Labor equal to demand.

Lincoln.—State of trade, good; prospects, very good; composition on morning papers, 33 cents; evening, 25 cents; bookwork, 30 cents; job printers, per week, \$15 to \$18. No difficulty, but to get steady employment applicants must be first-class workmen.

Montreal.—State of trade, fair; prospects, good; composition on morning papers, 30 cents; evening, 28 cents; bookwork, 28 cents; job printers, \$10 per week. No difficulty. Plenty of men here.

Omaha.—State of trade, fair; prospects, fair; composition on morning papers, 33 cents; evening, 30 cents; bookwork, 30 cents; job printers, per week, \$15 to \$18. The wages are small, but work is generally plenty for competent men. The trouble about measurement of type on the Bee is still unsettled.

Philadelphia.—State of trade, very dull; prospects, good; composition on morning papers, 40 cents; evening, 40 cents; bookwork, 40 cents; job printers, per week, \$16. Stay away. The union is going to boycott the *Press* and defeat Calvin Wells, prop., for elector.

Providence, R. I.—State of trade, fair; prospects, good; composition on morning papers, 38 to 40 cents; evening, 33 cents; bookwork, 30 to 35 cents; job printers, per week, \$13 to \$18. The supply is equal to the demand. Printers had better stay away. No difficulty.

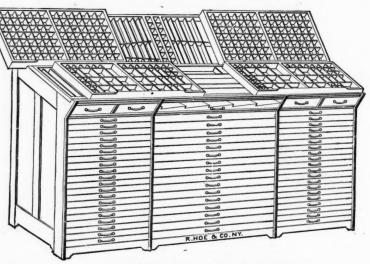
Springfield, Ill.—State of trade, fair; prospects, not encouraging; composition on morning papers, 33½ cents; evening, 30 cents; bookwork, 30 cents; job printers, per week, \$14. Supply is in excess of the demand. The *Illinois State Journal* is an unfair office, and is being boycotted.

St. Louis.—State of trade, newspapers, fair; jobbing and bookwork, dull; prospects, little to expect till fall; composition on morning papers, 40 cents; evening, 35 cents; bookwork, 40 cents; job printers, per week, \$18. Stay where you are at present; it won't pay traveling expenses to come here. The Republican is a nonunion office; while the Post-Dispatch is a hotbed for all kinds of unfair printers. The arrivals are very numerous lately; departures almost as numerous.

Toronto, Ont.—State of trade, rather dull; prospects, dull during summer; composition on morning papers, 33½ cents; evening, 28 cents; bookwork, 33½ cents; job printers, per week, \$1x, for 54 hours. No use coming here; large number out of work. No difficulty.

Winnipeg, Man.—State of trade, dull; prospects, poor; composition on morning papers, 40 cents; evening, 37½; bookwork, 40 cents; job printers, per week, \$18. Remain away for the present. A strike occurred in the Times newsroom on the 19th of June, caused by the above-named office borrowing matter from the Free Press, and when the men demanded pay for it the foreman refused. Hence they walked out.

### SPECIAL NOTICES.



### PROJECTING FRONT ECONOMIC CABINET.

(Patented Nov. 8, 1881.)

The above cut represents our improved patent projecting front Economic Cabinet. The addition of the projecting front makes it also serviceable as a printers' type-stand, at which the compositor can work. With all straight front cabinets this cannot be done, as there is no room for the compositor to assume a working position.

It contains on the left two sort drawers and 20 two-third job cases, Yankee or Boston patterns; in the center, safe receptacles for 5 brass galleys and 16 full-sized job cases; on the right, two sort drawers and the same number of cases as on the left-hand side. On the left upper surface are subdivisions for labor-saving leads of various thicknesses, from 4-em pica up, and on the right are spaces for the larger display type, face up, both of which are sunk sufficiently to admit of putting up a pair of cases, left and right, without injury to their contents; and in the center upper surface there are, always uncovered, every convenience for labor-saving rules, combination borders, right and left ornaments, etc.

Two extra pairs of sliding top cases go with each cabinet, as shown in cut. We will substitute, when ordered, triple or full-size pair cases and two-third pair cases.

This cabinet occupies a space only 8 by 3 feet, and embraces the necessary stands, cases, cabinets, galley rack, etc., for an office which, with ordinary furniture, would require a room 15 by 20 feet.

It will thus be seen that the compositor has in this cabinet his material concentrated directly under his eye and within reach. And there is thus a great saving both in time and wear and tear.

Price, in walnut, \$130; cherry, \$125. Boxing and shipping, \$5. Manufactured by R. Hoe & Co., at their works, 504 Grand street, New York; 180 and 182 Monroe street, Chicago; Tudor street, London, E.C., England.

### CHEAP JOB LOT OF PRINT PAPER.

I have a consignment of a carload of very fine cheap print paper, as

250 rms. 26 by 40...... 34 lb. 

I can name a very low price and good terms to good buyers, especially for the 26 by 40. Write for samples and price. I can make very low prices to buyers of print, extra print, machine finished book, super callendered book, manila, etc.

GEO. H. TAYLOR, 140 to 146 Monroe St., Chicago.



CHICAGO" METAL FURNITURE CASE (New) .- This case is double depth, and will hold 100 pounds of furniture. Price each \$1.25. Manufactured and for sale by GARDEN CITY TYPE FOUNDRY, 180 Monroe street, Chicago.

Fifty cents will pay for an advertisement of three lines in this Department Each additional line ten cents. Twelve words make a line. No manufacturer's or dealer's advertisement will be admitted here, this being intended for the accommodation of our subscribers.

FOR SALE OR LEASE—Job printing-office in Omaha, Neb. For particulars address GEO. W. GRAY, Omaha, Neb.

WANTED—By sober, industrious, thoroughly practical printer, situation as foreman in small job office; has seven years' experience as foreman in old country (England)—in this country one year—A1 in all branches; would make up weekly news sheet. Address, stating particulars, I.B.M., box 1421, Rome, N. Y.

\$2,000 Cash will buy a fine job office in central New York. No old truck. Steam-engine, Gordon half, Prouty eighth, paper cutter, card cutter, etc. Address H.A.T., care Inland Printer.

### GEO. WEBBER,

DEALER IN PRINTERS' WASTE,

113 WEST LAKE STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Trade furnished with Wipers at short notice

Highest prices paid for Printers' Cuttings.

Offices in the City cleared periodically by arrangement.



Prouty Presses.
Central Type Foundry.

SPECIAL AGENTS

{ Holly Wood Type.
Boston Type Foundry.

WANNER, WEBER & CO.

### Mechanics Type Foundry,

54 and 56 Franklin Street,

TELEPHONE 1040.

-CHICAGO.

A complete stock of Boston and Central Type Foundries' Beautiful Faces constantly on hand,

### SHNIEDEWEND & LEE,

PRINTERS' WAREHOUSE

ELECTROTYPE-FOUNDRY,

### Will Remove July 20,

TO THEIR NEW FIVE-STORY BUILDING,

### 303-305 Dearborn St. 46-48 Third Ave.

ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

N.B.-Pending the improvements now being made on Dearborn St., the principal entrance will be at 46-48 Third Ave.

### FRENCH LINEN.

A STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS CREAM LAID LINEN FLAT PAPER

500 Sheets to Ream.

Made of Pure Linens. Suitable for Finest Office Stationery.

We carry in Stock the following Sizes and Weights:

Above prices are net.

### CHICAGO PAPER COMPANY.

181 MONROE STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

### SHEPARD & JOHNSTON,

### PRINTERS OF FINE JOB WORK,

FOR THE TRADE.

BOOKWORK, CATALOGUES, PAMPHLETS,

BILL HEADS, LETTER HEADS, BUSINESS CARDS, PROGRAMMES.

WEDDING ORDERS A SPECIALTY.

SPECIAL FORMS SET UP AND ELECTROTYPED FOR THE COUNTRY TRADE.

140-146 MONROE STREET, CHICAGO.

### GERMAN

### PRINTING INKS, Electrotypers,

Bronze Powder.

### SIGMUND ULLMAN,

51 Maiden Lane, New York.

### CARTER & BARNARD,

BLACK AND COLORED

### PRINTING INK MAKERS,



116 Monroe St. CHICAGO.

We are the only firm in the city who manufacture a full line of

Black and Colored Inks.

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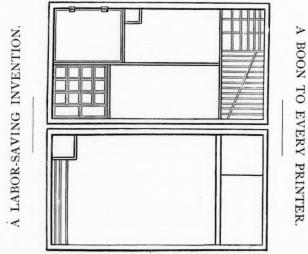
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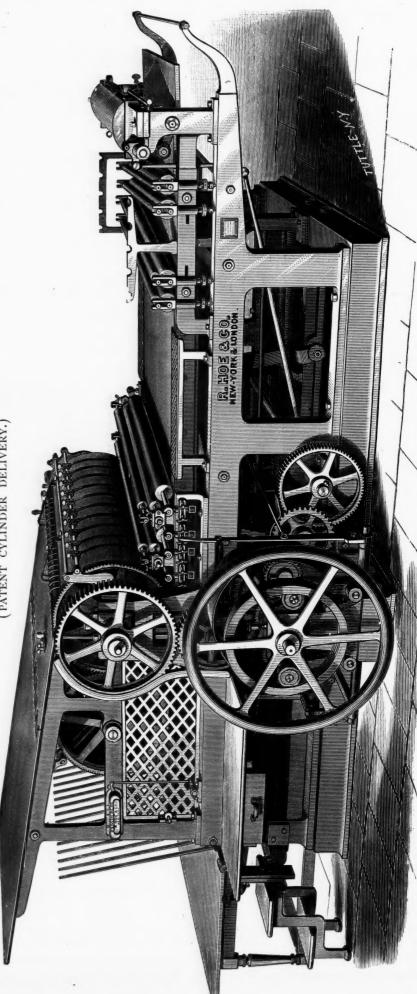
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The frame is very solid, and the gearing all made of special iron.

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The fountain, the fly cam, and the patent fly are the same as used on all our improved presses.

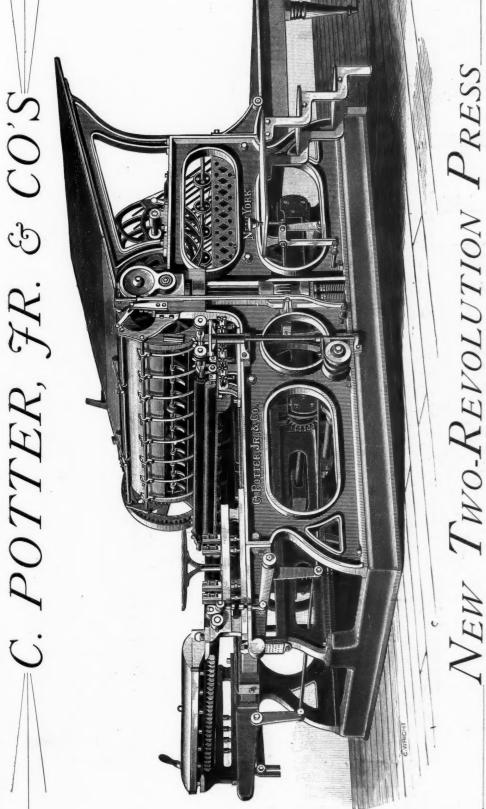
The distributing rollers run in a hinged frame, which is quickly raised to allow the form rollers to be removed and replaced without deranging their adjustment.

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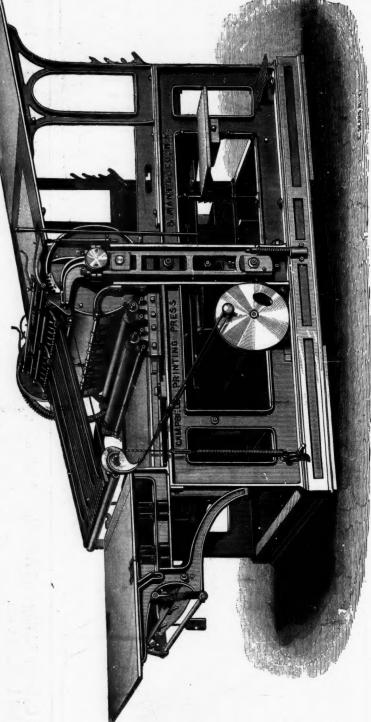
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